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to discuss the real point in the matter. The *Outlook* believes in and upholds war with its present code; hence it believes in and justifies this monstrous piece of deception, falsehood and forgery.

The comment of the *Independent*, the other of our two great independent religious weeklies, is amazing beyond almost anything we have ever read in a Christian journal:

"Did General Funston do right? Was he justified in deceiving Aguinaldo and capturing him by this deception? We see it asked whether we are not humiliated by Aguinaldo's orders that the American prisoners be treated humanely, when they were on their way to capture him by lies. The answer is simply the answer of war. It is wrong to lie, and wrong to steal, and wrong to kill. But in war men must lie and steal and kill. Then is war wrong? Certainly, wrong for somebody—for the party that is in the wrong, and whose act involves both parties in all these wrong acts. War is an accursed thing; 'war is hell;' but all is fair in war and hell. There was no violation of the laws of war in General Funston's conduct."

The *Independent*, in spite of its reckless daring in the face of the common principles of Christian morality, shrinks at last from answering categorically its own questions. It puts its statement in a roundabout, involved form, as if ashamed to say out squarely before its constituency of readers its real sentiment. The answers would run thus: General Funston did right. He was justified in deceiving Aguinaldo. War is wrong, for the party that is in the wrong. War is right, for the party that is in the right. The accursed, hellish thing is right, for those whose cause is right! Lying, stealing, killing are wrong. Lying, stealing, killing are right, for those whose cause is right! For these, these detestable immoralities are sacred, heavenly things! Accursed hell is for them transformed into glorious heaven! "All is fair in war and hell"! Wrong is right, whenever it is used for right ends! "The answer of war"! A pitiable answer it is.

It is useless to attempt to describe, with any English adjective, the shameful of such a doctrine. It crushes to dust the last stone of the foundations of morals. It turns morality into a thing of mere temporary, shifting, baseless expediency. If lying, stealing and killing are right under the circumstances and for the reasons given by the *Independent*, then any other immorality is right under similar conditions. And if these iniquities—the whole category of sins—are right and justifiable in accomplishing the purposes of war, they are right in private and social life wherever they are employed for just and righteous ends. Not a single reason can be adduced to the contrary.

The *Outlook* is right in saying that the most serious objection to war is the change in moral standards which it involves. But the most serious part of

this change is not that which occurs in the stress of the campaign and the battlefield; it is the impairment of moral standards which spreads everywhere through private life and civil society—into the home, the school, the pulpit, the editorial office. The pollution of these sources of the public life and morals, especially of the pulpit and the editorial chair, is the saddest and most irreparable of the evil effects of war. The corrupting influence of the lying and treachery of General Funston and his band of associates is bad enough, but it is insignificant in comparison with the far-reaching insidious effect of what has been written about the exploit—in plain language or in the most tangled casuistry—in the greater and smaller religious and other papers of the country.

### Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society.

The seventy-third annual business meeting of the American Peace Society will be held in Social Hall, Tremont Temple, Boston, Friday, May 17, at 2 p. m. The business will be the election of officers, the reading of the treasurer's annual account, the report of the board of directors on the work and events of the year, and the transaction of any other business that may be presented. A discussion by the members will follow the reading of the annual report. In view of the commemorative meetings held in January, no public meeting will be held at the time of the annual meeting this year. All members of the Society who are within reach of Boston are urged to be present at the annual meeting, and those who cannot come are invited to send any suggestions that may occur to them as to the interests of the work. We would also remind our friends again of the urgent need of funds with which to maintain and further extend the influence of the Society's work. It has been impossible as yet to provide permanent means of preventing the annual deficit which we have had to meet for the last three or four years, on account of the decline in interest rates and rent values. Our friends have generously met these deficits in the past, and we are sure they will not fail to do so now, at this most important juncture in the history of the peace movement. Contributions of any amount will be most gratefully received.

### Editorial Notes.

Very few, if any, German statesmen seemingly have grasped the real secret of the power of arbitration in the settlement of international disputes. There are many private citizens all over Germany who see the subject clearly and are pressing it with great force upon the authorities, but among those who lead and control the state there are practically none. The German official point of view, at

German View  
of Arbitration.